



# News Release

## WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### MEDIA ADVISORY

## **Wisconsin National Guard accepts 'Airtime' from American Legion Thursday**

Brig. Gen. Kerry Denson, commander of the Wisconsin Army National Guard, will accept two satellite phones and 10,000 air-time minutes for deployed Wisconsin soldiers Thursday, [Aug. 5], at 9:30 a.m. in the Wisconsin National Guard headquarters auditorium, 2400 Wright St., Madison. The presentation will be made by Wisconsin American Legion State Commander Al Richards and State Adjutant Bill West.

The gift is part of the American Legion's "Operation Airtime," which raises funds to buy satellite phones and airtime for deployed Wisconsin Guard soldiers. American Legion officials began the project to show their support to the Wisconsin National Guard's 32nd Military Police Company when the unit's tour of duty was extended. They presented Wisconsin National Guard officials with two 3,000-minute airtime cards in May, giving each of the 150 members of the 32nd Military Police Company 20 minutes of airtime each week.

With the 32nd MPs now back in Wisconsin, the gift will go to other deployed units based on the size of the unit and expected duration of the unit's overseas deployment.

The Wisconsin Guard still has about 1,360 soldiers and airmen on active duty. Of those, approximately 320 are deployed overseas and nearly 700 others are eventually bound for overseas missions. The Guard's remaining 8,500 soldiers and airmen remain ready to provide a wide range of military support in the event of emergencies in Wisconsin or to protect against any terrorist threats that may be identified in the state.

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